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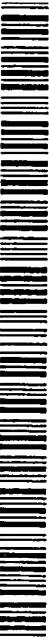
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(54) Title: CATERPILLER GENE FAMILY

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a new family of structurally and functionally related nucleic acids and proteins, designed the CATERPILLER family, which is characterized by landmark structural motifs including a nucleotide binding domain and leucine-rich repeat domains.